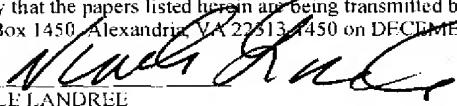


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: ASADA et al. Examiner: Unknown  
Serial No.: 10/591,066 Group Art Unit: Unknown  
Filed: August 30, 2006 Docket: 14434.115USWO  
Title: REINFORCING MATERIAL FOR PROTON CONDUCTIVE MEMBRANE, PROTON CONDUCTIVE MEMBRANE USING SAME AND FUEL CELL

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that the papers listed herein are being transmitted by EFS Web to: Mail Stop AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on DECEMBER 26, 2007.

By:   
Name: NICOLE LANDREE

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c))

## MS AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner. A concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language document or other information is as follows (37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)): US 2004/0062970 A1, EP 0875524 A2 and EP 1085038 A1 listed in the Search Report are not attached. US 2004/0062970 A1 has already been filed in an IDS submitted on November 29, 2006, and EP 0875524 A2 and EP 1085038 A2 correspond to US 6,042,958 and US 6,680,138 which were submitted in the same IDS on November 29, 2006.

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97, this statement is being filed (CHECK ONE):

(1) within three (3) months of the Filing Date, before the mailing date of a First Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing date of a First Office Action on the merits after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.114; or

(2) after the period defined in (1) but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, and

the requisite Statement is below, OR

the requisite fee of \$180.00 under Rule 1.17(p) is included herein, or

(3) after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance but on or before the payment of the Issue Fee, AND

the requisite Statement is below, AND

the requisite fee of \$180.00 under Rule 1.17(p) is included herein.

#### STATEMENT

As required under §1.97(e), Applicants hereby state either that:

1. Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing date of the Information Disclosure Statement; or

2. No item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and to the knowledge of the person signing this Statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

If this box is checked, Applicant provides the following:

**Certification Under 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d)**

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d), the undersigned hereby certifies that each item listed on the enclosed Form 1449 was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than thirty (30) days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

The Examiner is hereby advised of the following co-pending U.S. applications. A copy of each U.S. patent application publication (if published) or application (if not published) is enclosed.

Application No.

Filing Date

Group

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

**FEE AUTHORIZATION**

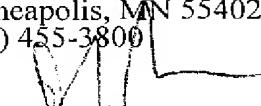
Should any fee associated with the submission of this paper not be attached hereto as a check, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the missing fee to our Deposit Account, No. 50-3478. Any overpayments should be credited to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMRE, SCHUMANN, MUELLER &  
LARSON, P.C.  
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Minneapolis, MN 55402-0902  
(612) 455-3800

Dated: December 26, 2007

By:

  
Douglas P. Mueller  
Reg. No. 30,300

DPM:nel